

REMARKS

In the above-noted Final Office Action, claims 22-34, and 39-42 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over KUBOTA et al. (U.S. Patent No. 7,023,992) in view of VALENCI et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication. 2003/0005279) and in view of BLATTER et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,878,135). Claims 35-37 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over KUBOTA, VALENCI and BLATTER, and further in view of SWIX et al. (U.S. Patent Application Publication. 2004/0250273). Claim 38 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over KUBOTA, VALENCI and BLATTER, and further in view of UTSUMI et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,999,947).

Upon entry of the present amendment, claims 22-28, 30-32 and 35 will have been cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter recited therein. The cancellation of claims 22-28, 30-32 and 35 should not be considered an indication as to Applicant's acquiescence as to the propriety of any outstanding rejection. Rather, Applicant has cancelled claims 22-28, 30-32 and 35 to advance prosecution and obtain early allowance of the claims. Accordingly, the rejection of claims 22-28, 30-32 and 35 will have been rendered moot.

Claims 29, 33, 34 and 40 will have been amended to more clearly recite features of the invention to which the pending claims are directed. In particular, claim 29 will have been amended to further recite, *inter alia*, the rights information specifying at least one of rights for a permitted number of accesses and rights for editing in the receiving apparatus. Further, claim 29 will have been amended to recite features previously recited in cancelled claim 35. More particularly, claim 29 will also have been amended to recite, *inter alia*, a second rights manager that separates the rights information into first rights

information and second rights information. Claim 29 will have been further amended to recite, *inter alia*, a multiplexing adjustor that modifies the rights information in the multiplexed signal, and that outputs a revised multiplexed signal, wherein the revised multiplexed signal is output to a second receiving apparatus in accordance with a request signal from the second receiving apparatus.

Claim 34 will have been amended to eliminate noted informalities. Claims 33 and 40 will have been amended to recite, *inter alia*, a temporary storage that temporarily stores the first encrypted data. New claims 43 and 44 will have been added. New claim 43 recites that the processing state in the receiving apparatus comprises the permitted number of accesses, editing allowed information and editing prohibited information. New claim 44 recites that a processing state in the second receiving apparatus comprises the permitted number of accesses, editing allowed information and editing prohibited information.

Neither KUBOTA, VALENCI nor BLATTER teach or suggest the rights information specifying at least one of rights for a permitted number of accesses and rights for editing in the receiving apparatus, as recited in amended claim 29.

Neither KUBOTA, VALENCI, BLATTER nor SWIX teach or suggest second rights information, let alone a second rights manager that separates the rights information into first rights information and second rights information, as recited in amended claim 29. In this regard, the cited portions of SWIX at paragraphs [0062] and [0063] merely teach a second transmission signal being selected from a plurality of transmission signals and demodulated to obtain a second information signal.

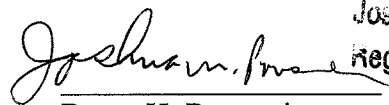
In addition, neither KUBOTA, VALENCI, BLATTER nor SWIX teach or suggest a second receiving apparatus, let alone a multiplexing adjustor that modifies the rights information in the multiplexed signal, and that outputs a revised multiplexed signal, wherein the revised multiplexed signal is output to a second receiving apparatus in accordance with a request signal from the second receiving apparatus, as recited in claim 29.

Further, Applicant also expressly incorporates all other arguments made in Applicant's previous Responses, including the arguments contained in the Response filed on September 28, 2007.

At least for each and all of the reasons set forth above, KUBOTA in combination with the teachings of VALENCI, BLATTER, SWIX or any other document would not result in the features recited in amended claim 29. Further, each of dependent claims 33, 34 and 36-44 is allowable at least for depending, directly or indirectly, from an allowable independent claim, as well as for additional reasons related to their own recitations. Accordingly, reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the outstanding rejections is respectfully requested.

Should there be any questions, any representative of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

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